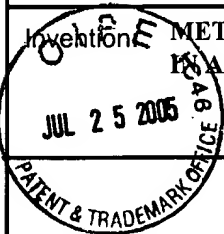


AF/1744Z

<b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)</b>				Docket No. <b>SM-5455-DIV-US 0112713-1304</b>	
Applicant(s): <b>Bilstad et al.</b>					

Application No. <b>09/970,580</b>	Filing Date <b>October 4, 2001</b>	Examiner <b>Krisanne M. Jastrzab</b>	Customer No. <b>29200</b>	Group Art Unit <b>1744</b>	Confirmation No. <b>2598</b>
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**INVENTION METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANIPULATING PRE-STERILIZED COMPONENTS  
IN AN ACTIVE STERILE FIELD**



COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:


Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	
TOTAL CLAIMS	16 -	65 =	0	x \$50.00	\$0.00	
INDEP. CLAIMS	1 -	3 =	0	x \$200.00	\$0.00	
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>						\$0.00
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</b>						<b>\$0.00</b>

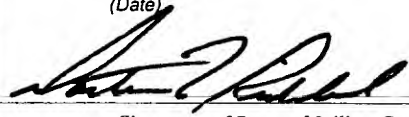
- ☒ No additional fee is required for amendment.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account **02-1818**
  - ☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.
  - ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038.

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Dated: July 19, 2005

**Matthew T. Ridsdale**  
Reg. No. 56,832  
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Chicago, Illinois 60690-1135  
Phone: 312.807.4214

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on	
July 19, 2005 (Date)	
	
Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence	
<b>Matthew T. Ridsdale</b>	
Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence	

CC:



RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3762

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Bilstad et al.  
Appl. No.: 09/970,580  
Conf. No.: 2598  
Filed: October 4, 2001  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANIPULATING PRE-STERILIZED  
COMPONENTS IN AN ACTIVE STERILE FIELD  
Art Unit: 1744  
Examiner: KRISANNE M. JASTRZAB  
Docket No.: SM-5455-DIV-US (112713-1304)

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Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

Madame:

In response to the Final Action dated May 19, 2005, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.